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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Chester "Chet" Leroy Wentz, Jr. of Peoria, who passed away on August 9, 2015; and

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WHEREAS, Chester Wentz, Jr. was born on January 22, 1933 in Allentown, Pennsylvania; his parents were Chester L. Wentz, Sr. and Dorothy Mae Cook; he married Carolyn Ann Eicher on January 1, 1957 while on military leave; and

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WHEREAS, Chester Wentz, Jr. lived with his parents and his brother in Bartlett and Dearborn, Michigan; while attending high school in Michigan, he was an All-Conference halfback on the football team and an All-Area sprinter on the track team; he obtained his bachelor's degree from Michigan State University as a business and journalism major in March of 1955; while there, he was active in a Christian fellowship group known as Intervarsity; and

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WHEREAS, In 1955, Chester Wentz, Jr. enlisted in the United States Army, where he was assigned to basic training, Russian language school, and radio voice intercept school; he served a 2-year tour of duty in Heilbronn, Germany until his honorable discharge in 1958; and

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1 WHEREAS, Upon returning to civilian life, Chester Wentz,
2 Jr. was employed with Humble Oil Company and Darco Business
3 Forms while he and his wife raised their young family in Glen
4 Ellyn; he later worked for Moody Press in Chicago and as a bus
5 operator for Laidlaw International in Chicago and Peoria; and

6 WHEREAS, After retirement, Chester Wentz, Jr. and his wife
7 moved to Peoria, where they became active members at Grace
8 Presbyterian Church; he sang in both the sanctuary and GFC
9 choir and participated in a vibrant Sunday school class; he
10 remained a member of Gideon's and Child Evangelism and was
11 loyal to his grandchildren's many extracurricular activities;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Chester Wentz, Jr. was a member of the Glen Ellyn
14 Bible Church, where he served as Deacon, choir member, and
15 Boy's Brigade leader; he was also a member of Gideon's
16 International and the ton Lions Club; he was a devoted family
17 man who was very active in each of his children's sporting,
18 music, and school activities; and

19 WHEREAS, Chester Wentz, Jr. was preceded in death by his
20 parents and his brother, Jack (Carol); and

21 WHEREAS, Chester Wentz, Jr. is survived by his wife,
22 Carolyn; 4 children, Karen (Rod) Haggerty, David (Tonya) and

1 Dan (Stacy) Wentz, and Rob (Anna) Wentz; and 8 grandchildren,
2 Ryan, Kathryn, Kelsey, Haley, Luke, Zach, Amanda, and Jack;
3 therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL
5 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we, along with his
6 family and friends, mourn the passing of Chester "Chet" Leroy
7 Wentz, Jr.; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
9 presented to the family of Chester Wentz, Jr. as an expression
10 of our sympathy.